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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/863,821	05/24/2001	Gary Gamerman	P 274105	8981
35408	7590	09/22/2004	EXAMINER	
ANTHONY MIELE PALMER & DODGE, LLP 111 HUNTINGTON AVENUE BOSTON, MA 02199			COFFY, EMMANUEL	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2157	

DATE MAILED: 09/22/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 09/863,821	Applicant(s) GAMERMAN, GARY	
	Examiner Emmanuel Coffy	Art Unit 2157	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 24 May 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 24 May 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. This action is responsive to the application filed on 24 May, 2001. Claim 1 is pending. Claim 1 is directed to a system and method for a "Cascaded Distribution of Processing."

Specification

2. The abstract should be in narrative form and generally limited to a single paragraph on a separate sheet within the range of 50 to 150 words. It is important that the abstract not exceed 150 words in length since the space provided for the abstract on the computer tape used by the printer is limited.

Claim Objections

3. Claim 1 is objected to because of the following minor informalities. Appropriate correction is required. The word "and" should follow the semicolon

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101

4. 35 U.S.C. 101 reads as follows:

Whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter, or any new and useful improvement thereof, may obtain a patent therefor, subject to the conditions and requirements of this title.

Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 because it is not tangibly embodied.

However, to expedite a complete examination of the instant application the claim rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 above is further rejected as set forth below in anticipation of applicant amending this claim to place it within the four statutory categories of invention.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Kogge (5,475,856) in view of Fables et al. (US 6,282,697.)

Kogge teaches a parallel multi-mode RISC computer system with an architecture which can be extended to more widely placed processing elements through the interconnection network which couples multiple processors capable of MIMD mode processing to one another with broadcast of instructions to selected groups of units controlled by a controlling processor. (See abstract)

Claim 1:

Kogge substantially teaches the invention as claimed including a software application product that is executable by a first processor, said software application product comprising:

a first module that, when executed by the first processor, causes the first processor to communicate with other processors that are networked with said first processor; (See col. 13, claim 1)

a second module that, when executed by said first processor, causes said first processor to operate sometimes in a query mode and at other times in a solve mode,

and when contents of a problem received during the solve mode indicate that one or more of the other processors is to provide at least part of a solution to said problem, causes information about said problem to be transmitted to said one or more of the other processors for processing by said one or more processors or for segmenting and distribution by said one or more processors to still additional processors that are networked to said one or more processors. (See col. 13, claim 1).

Kogge teaches a parallel multi-mode RISC computer system with an architecture, which can be extended to more widely, placed processing elements through the interconnection network, which couples multiple processors. Kogge does not specifically teach multi-module software. However, Fables teaches a plurality of software entities which can be dynamically configured to process data autonomously. (See abstract). Hence, it would have been obvious at the time of the invention for an artisan of ordinary skill in the art to use the multi-mode parallel RISC computer system taught by Kogge with the plurality of software entities disclosed by Fables. Such a system decentralizes the management of computer processing tasks and allows distributed or parallel processing of data to proceed autonomously. Therefore, claim 1 is rejected.

Conclusion

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Emmanuel Coffy whose telephone number is (703) 305-0325. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30 - 5:00 P.M.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ario Etienne can be reached on (703) 308-7562. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Emmanuel Coffy
Patent Examiner
Art Unit 2157

EC
Sept 08, 2004



SALEH NAJJAR
PRIMARY EXAMINER